

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 04678 200943Z

20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 SS-15 USIA-06 PRS-01 PA-01 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 /046 W

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R 200845Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1559

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 4678

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SN

SUBJECT: NEWSWEEK PROBLEM IN SINGAPORE

REF: A. SINGAPORE 4655; B. STATE 254094

1. CHINESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 20 FIRST STORIES IN LOCAL PRESS ON CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST NEWSWEEK STRINGER PANG CHENG LIAN AND TWO LOCAL DISTRIBUTORS. ACCORDING TO NANYANG SIANG PAU, THE SINGAPORE HIGH COURT HAS SERVED A SUMMONS ON THE DEFENDENTS ON CHARGES OF CONTEMPT OF COURT AND WILL HEAR THE CASE ON NOVEMBER 29. STORIES BRIEFLY RECAPPED WORKERS'S PARTY LIBEL SUIT AND CITED NEWSWEEK ARTICLE ENTITLED "SELECTIVE JUSTICE" CRITICIZING COURT DECISION. SIN CHEW JIT POH ACCOUNT WAS VIRTUALLY THE SAME, BUT REPORTED MISS PANG HAD CONFIRMED TO A AFP REPORTER THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED THE SUMMONS BUT THAT HER LAWYER HAD ADVISED HER TO EXPRESS NO OPINION TO THE PRESS. STRAITS TIMES DID NOT CARRY STORY.

2. EDITOR OF NEW NATION, DAVID KRALL, CONFIRMED TO USIS THAT THREE DEFENDANTS WILL APPEAR IN COURT NOVEMBER 29. TX UOAIID SUMMONS WAS VERY STIFF AND MENTIONED ONLY THE POSSIBILITY OF A JAIL SENTENCE RATHER THAN A FINE. HE EXPECTED THAT RESULT OF THE HEARING ON THE SUMMONS WOULD BE THAT THE THREE DEFENDANTS WOULD BE FORMALLY CHARGED WITH CONTEMPT. HE SAID PANG HAD REQUESTED NEWSWEEK TO SEND
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PAGE 02 SINGAP 04678 200943Z

BACK THE NOTES SHE HAD SENT THEM WHICH FORMED BASIS OF

THE ARTICLE. ALL THREE DEFENDANTS HAVE THEIR OWN
LAWYERS AND NEWSEK WUTJ BE PAYING COSTS OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE.
GRANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, COURT PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SINGAP04678
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740335-0726
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741127/aaaaawpd.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. SINGAPORE 4655; B. STATE 254094
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
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